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plates. It is devoted to a description of the first stages of the larva, the specimens having been hatched from the eggs at Beaufort, N. C. It appears that the larva immediately after hatching is still quite rudimentary in form compared with the more active zoëa after it has cast its first larval skin, which occurs in from two to twenty-four hours after hatching. A second paper by Dr. Brooks is entitled "Alternation of periods of rest with periods of activity in the segmenting eggs of Vertebrates."

HAMLIN'S PHYSICAL GEOGRAPHY AND GEOLOGY OF MT. KTAADN.¹—This little known and somewhat inaccessible mountain, is one of the grandest peaks in Northeastern America. Its isolation, the great height to which it rises above the surrounding country, the wild, savage desolation of its summit, the sharpness of its peak, the enormous chasm or rent in its side like the crater of a volcano, are features wanting in the White and Green mountains. Moreover it is of peculiar interest from the fact that during the glacial period its peak, like that of Mount Washington, probably stood above the ice sheets, while at an elevation of 4615 feet on its sides, occur boulders of Oriskany sandstone containing fossils, as well as of fossiliferous slates which, in some manner unexplained, have been carried from the lowlands not many miles to the north-westward, apparently not much over 600 feet above the sea. Professor Hamlin's account is full and detailed, and we are glad to know only preliminary to more thorough investigations. The excellent heliotype of a model made of the mountain, will be useful to future explorers and visitors to this wildest, most volcanic-looking of our New England peaks.

Professor Hamlin, from numerous soundings in the lakes of the Ktaadn region, shows that the lakes are shallow, with flat bottoms, enclosed by glacial detritus, as are all the lakes in Maine. Of lake basins excavated in solid rocks, he knows not an instance in Maine. It would seem from this that the lake basins of Maine, though our author does not say so, would, if drained, appear like the ancient lake bottoms which form the sites of many a New England village, and which were formed during the terrace epoch or epoch of great rivers, when the latter were chains of lakes.

The author shows that the Ktaadn region is not a continuous granite area as formerly supposed, but that like the other elevations in Central Maine, it is a mass of intrusive granite rising out of gneiss. He takes the ground, against Sterry Hunt and others, that the "gneiss" is really an eruptive granite, rather than of sedimentary origin, the transitions in many places within a

¹*Observations upon the Physical Geography and Geology of Mount Ktaadn and the adjacent district.* By C. E. HAMLIN. Bulletin of the Museum of Comp. Zoology at Harvard College. Geological series, Vol. 1, No. v. Cambridge, Mass., June, 1881. 8vo, pp. 189-223, with a map and heliotype taken from a model of Mt. Ktaadn.

small area from crystalline rock to distinct schists being, in his view, incompatible with the idea that the former is a metamorphosed portion of the latter. Ktaadn is itself composed of true granite, specimens having been referred to Dr. Wadsworth for microscopic examination. The mountain has been determined, by Professor Fernald, to be 5215 feet high; the parallel of 46° crosses the northern base of the mountain. The drift, boulders and gravel occur as far up as 4600 feet on the sides of the mountain; the drift has been covered with the débris from the mountain summits, or in the author's words, "Ktaadn has thus been buried under its own ruins, and beneath these ruins has been hidden the drift that was deposited when the mountain was comparatively intact."

DARWIN'S POWER OF MOVEMENT IN PLANTS.¹—There are few botanists indeed who do not prize very highly Mr. Darwin's botanical works—"Climbing Plants," "Fertilization of Orchids," "Insectivorous Plants," "Fertilization in the Vegetable Kingdom," and the "Forms of Flowers." We have now another to add to the list, and it is not too much to say that it fully equals in interest and importance, any of its predecessors. Like them it is the record of a long series of the most patient and painstaking observations and direct experiments, and like them the results are told in the simple and straightforward manner which is the peculiar charm of Mr. Darwin's writings.

Beginning with a short introduction, the authors take up the circumnutating movements in seedling plants, devoting particular attention to the movements of the radicle, or young root, and the cotyledons, or earliest leaves of the plantlet. Curious and ingenious devices were resorted to, for showing the periodic movements of circumnutating parts, and numerous diagrams are given, showing the paths traversed during stated periods. Not only were the parts of the young plantlet found to have periodic movements, but, in many cases at least, they were found to be sensitive to contact or other external influences. The movements of the parts of mature plants are next taken up, and many curious facts are brought out here for the first time. The movements connected with the sleep and waking of plants occupy considerably more than one hundred pages of the book. Heliotropism and its modifications occupy seventy pages or more, and geotropism upwards of fifty more. At the close is a chapter containing a summary which includes some startling suggestions, and food enough for many years of diligent and hard thinking.

The public on this side of the Atlantic, have again to thank the Messrs. Appleton & Co., of New York, for the promptness with which they have brought out the American edition, and at a price which places it within easy reach of all.—C. E. B.

¹ *The Power of Movement in Plants.* By CHARLES DARWIN, LL.D., F.R.S., assisted by FRANCIS DARWIN. New York, D. Appleton & Co., 1881.